

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LIMA 09819 201927Z

62

ACTION ARA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2819

UNCLAS LIMA 9819

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS TO PEACE CORPS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PE

SUBJECT: CONTINUED PRESS COVERAGE OF PEACE CORPS OUSTER

REF: LIMA 9750 AND PREVIOUS

1. NOVEMBER 19 LIMA PRESS CONTINUED COMMENTING ON OUSTER OF PEACE CORPS (SEE REFTELS). LA PRENSA, IN EDITORIAL TITLED "IDEOLOGICAL PENETRATION," STATES PEACE CORPS ASKED TO LEAVE AS PART OF GOP CAMPAIGN TO DEFEND "REVOLUTIONARY PROCESS" AGAINST "DESTABILIZATION" AND "PRO-IMPERIALIST AND PRO-BOURGEOIS IDEOLOGICAL PENETRATION." IT FURTHER STATES THAT PC HAD BEEN DENOUNCED PREVIOUSLY IN BOLIVIA DURING TORRES REGIME, IN AREQUIPA IN LATE 1968 AND RECENTLY IN PARAGUAY. IT ALLEGES THAT PC SERVED AS "ARM OF IMPERIALISM" TRANSMITTING THE VALUES OF A SOCIETY WHICH THE REVOLUTION REJECTS. EDITORIAL GOES ON TO NOTE THAT PERU STILL HAS MANY GROUPS WHO "TRANSMIT CONCEPTS PREJUDICIAL TO THE CREATION OF A NEW (REVOLUTIONARY PERUVIAN) MAN." IN NEW TWIST, LA PRENSA ALLEGES THAT PC HAS BEEN DENOUNCED BY VARIOUS COUNTRIES IN LATIN AMERICA FOR "ENCOURAGING THE USE OF HALLUCINOGENS AMONG THE YOUNG." IT CONCLUDES THAT "THE OUSTER OF THE PEACE CORPS IS PART OF THE REVOLUTIONARY CONSCIENCE IN ACTION." RADICAL EXPRESO EDITORIAL IS, SURPRISINGLY, SOMEWHAT QUIETER IN TONE. IT STATES REASON

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PAGE 02 LIMA 09819 201927Z

FOR EXPULSION OF PC IS, SIMPLY, THAT WORK CAN NOW BE PERFORMED

BY PERUVIANS. IT NOTES THAT REVOLUTION IS NOT XENOPHOBIC (SIC) BUT THAT IT DOES "GIVE PRIORITY TO ALL QUESTIONS OF NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY AND POSSIBLE INFILTRATIONS." IT ADDS THAT NOW THAT THE UNITED STATES HAS OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZED, THROUGH ITS PRESIDENT, THAT IT HAS "DESTABILIZED" GOVERNMENTS, ONE HAS TO BE CONCERNED ABOUT IMPORTANCE OF ANY ORGANIZATION WHICH WORKS IN FARTHEST CORNERS OF COUNTRY AND WHOSE PLANS MAY OR MAY NOT AGREE WITH THOSE OF REVOLUTION. IN CONCLUSION, EXPRESO PROPOSES THAT ALL AID TO PERU SHOULD GO THROUGH SOME PERUVIAN ENTITY, HEADED BY PERUVIANS, WHICH WOULD ANALYZE IT. (IN FACT, ALL PC PROGRAMS ALREADY FUNCTION IN THIS MANNER.)

2. OJO OPINION COLUMN DISCOUNTS CASUAL MANNER, DRESS AND ABILITY TO MAKE FRIENDS OF PCVS AND CONCLUDES, "THESE AMIABLE HIPPIES ... WERE THE 'EYES OF THE MASTER' WHICH FED THE COMPUTERS OF THE CIA THROUGH THE EXERCISE OF A MISSION WHICH REPRESENTED ONE OF THE GREATEST SYMBOLS OF IMPERIALISM AND CULTURAL DOMINATION. ITS NAME: PEACE CORPS OF THE UNITED STATES." ULTIMA HORA COLUMN ALSO NOTES THAT REASON FOR EXPULSION IS THAT PERU CAN NOW DO WORK PREVIOUSLY DONE BY PC WITH ITS OWN NATIONALS. IT GOES ON TO NOTE THAT BEHIND INNOCENT FACADE OF PC LURKED THE CIA. IT THEN MAKES JOURNALISTIC LEAP TO ATTACK ULTRA-LEFTISTS STATING, "IT IS SURE THAT THEY WILL CONTINUE SAYING THAT THIS REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT, THAT EXPELLED FOREIGN MILITARY MISSIONS (READ MAAG) AND THAT JUST OUSTED THE PEACE CORPS, IS, IN SPITE OF ALL THIS, AN 'AGENT REGIME OF IMPERIALISM.' BUT EVERYBODY KNOWS THAT THOSE PEOPLE TALK ONLY BECAUSE GOD GAVE THEM A MOUTH."
DEAN

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